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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:45 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, who makes us one, use our lawmakers today as agents of reconciliation. Lord, give them the wisdom to build bridges that will enable diverse people to accomplish Your purposes on Earth. Lord, inspire our Senators with such oneness of spirit and resolve that they will provide our Nation with a model of cooperation. Remind them of the wisdom of Matthew 12:25, which states that a house divided against itself cannot stand.

Lord, we thank You for giving Senator GRASSLEY another birthday.

We pray in Your unifying Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH). The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 1 minute in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### ELECTIONS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, first of all, I thank the chaplain for the happy birthday that was part of the prayer. So they heard it in Heaven, as well as throughout the United States.

Before the 2016 election, Democrats speculated very feverishly: Would Donald Trump accept the results of the election of 2016?

Then he won, and it is the Democrats who have refused to accept the result. They sought to delegitimize the election, citing Russia's meddling or questioning our Presidential election system. On Inauguration Day, you know the famous Washington Post headline said it all: "The campaign to impeach President Trump has begun." He was President about 1 hour at that time.

In fact, we now know that efforts to fabricate a Russia collusion narrative were already under way well before the President was inaugurated. The same people are again fretting that President Trump might not somehow accept the election results if he loses. And, of course, under our Constitution, no President has any option but to accept those results because the term ends on January 20.

But can't we also ask the alternative? What if President Trump does win? Well, this was the advice from Hillary Clinton to former Vice President Biden: that Biden "should not concede under any circumstances."

So will the Democrats respect the election results this time?

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

### PRESIDENT TRUMP

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, this morning I was planning to address a number of topics, but the President

held a press conference yesterday afternoon that was so callous, so uninformed, so egomaniacal, so divisive that I am compelled to respond to it this morning.

We are in the middle of a global pandemic that has killed nearly 200,000 Americans, far more than the number of Americans who died in World War I—more than any other Nation on God's green Earth, more than countries with larger populations, and more than countries with mere fractions of our wealth and power.

Here is how the President spoke about the number of American deaths yesterday at his press conference:

If you take the blue states out, we're at a level that I don't think anybody in the world would be at . . . [If you take the blue states out,] we're really at a very low level.

Yes, Mr. President, if you don't count the total number of Americans who have died, you might think it is not so bad. If you close your eyes and pretend that half of the country doesn't exist, maybe some might think you didn't do such a spectacularly awful job.

What kind of person looks at the number of dead citizens in the country he is supposed to lead, and in an attempt to glamorize himself, dismisses every American who died in a State that didn't support the President politically? What a disgrace. It is monstrous. There is not a shred of empathy, not an ounce of sorrow. What kind of President do we have?

The President just wants you to see a graph about how his catastrophic failure to fight COVID-19 could have been worse.

I suggest President Trump spend some time reading the stories of the men and women across the country who have passed away from this terrible virus.

This isn't about a number. Oh, no, it is about the people families and communities have lost, whether they be in red States or blue States. Many of these families have been unable to hold

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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